(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to part (a) above.

(d) Law and order is a State subject. However, following steps are taken by the subsidiary companies of Coal India Limited (CIL) to prevent illegal mining:

i) Rat holes created by illegal mining are being dozed off and filled up with stone and debris wherever possible.

ii) Concrete walls have been created on the mouth of the abandoned mines to prevent access and illegal activities in these areas.

iii) Fencing is being constructed at the various illegal mining sites along with displaying of signboards mentioning "Dangerous and Prohibited Place".

iv) Dumping of the overburden is being done on the outcrop zones, which are not required to be mined.

v) Collection of intelligence reports about illegal coal depots and illegal movement of coal and informing district authorities of the same for taking preventive action.

vi) Installation of check-posts at vulnerable poitns to check transport documents.

vii) Training of existing security personnel, refresher training of CISF personnel and basic training of new recruits in security discipline for strengthening the security setup.

viii) The coal companies maintain close liaison with the State authorities;

Accusations against Aryan Coal Benefication Plant, SECL

†3822. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether several MPs and institutions have brought accusations of

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

sale of good quality coal in the name of rejects and pilferage of coal against Aryan Coal Benefication Plant, SECL;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to these accusations, recommendation to erect one-way bridge in front of Aryan Coal washery was made by MPs so that movement of coal and rejects could be accounted for; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not erecting a one-way bridge despite lapse of a long time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. As reported by the Coal India Limited, a committee was constituted by the South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) to examine the feasibility of installing road weighbridge at the gate of M/s Aryan Coal Benefication (P) Ltd. washery. The committee, after going into details, came to the conclusion that installing weighbridge at the gate of said washery will not result into any further strengthening of the existing system. The committee suggested to tighten the security checks. The same has been done by the SECL management.

Royalty to coal producing States

3823. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to change the formula for calculating royalty to coal producing States;

(b) if so, the new formula thereof;

(c) whether it would put more burden on coal producing States;

(d) whether it would also lead to rise in the prices of steel and electricity; and

(e) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (e) Ministry of Coal constituted a Committee under